

RECLAMATION

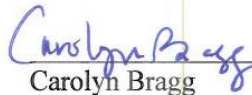
Managing Water in the West

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Nimbus Dam Radial Gates Maintenance Project

FONSI 15-05-CCAO

Recommended by:


Carolyn Bragg
Natural Resource Specialist
Central California Area Office


Date: 04-05-2015

Concurred by:


Catherine Blackwell
Chief, Resources Management Division
Central California Area Office

Date: 05 JUNE 2015

Approved by:


Drew Lessard
Area Manager
Central California Area Office

Date: 6/15/15

INTRODUCTION

The Nimbus Dam Radial Gates Maintenance Project (Proposed Action) is located in Sacramento, California. The Proposed Action would take place on Reclamation land including lands managed by the California Department of Parks and Recreation within the Folsom Lake State Recreation Area. The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) will authorize the needed maintenance activities on the radial gates and the construction of a Bulkhead Storage Facility. Both the coating system and the lifting bracket assembly are degraded on the radial gates due to corrosion. The construction of the Bulkhead Storage Facility will ensure the safety and longevity of the bulkhead equipment used for maintenance of the Nimbus Dam. The Proposed Action would begin July of 2015 and commence October of 2019.

The Proposed Action would consist of five main components:

1. Waterway and Marine Construction,
2. Radial Gate Maintenance,
3. Sediment Removal and Disposal,
4. Bulkhead Storage Facility Construction, and
5. Handrail Improvements.

Reclamation prepared the attached Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the effects of the Proposed Action. The EA was available for public review on May 6, 2015. The review period ended on May 20, 2015. No comments were received on the EA during this period.

FINDINGS

Based on the attached EA, Reclamation has determined that the Proposed Action is not a major Federal action that will significantly affect the quality of the human environment. The attached EA describes the existing environmental resources in the Proposed Action area, evaluates the effects of the No Action and Proposed Action alternatives on the resources, and proposes measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any potential adverse effects. The EA was prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR 1500-1508), and Department of Interior Regulations (43 CFR Part 46). The analysis provided in the attached EA supports the following findings, and is incorporated by reference.

Following are the reasons why the impacts of the Proposed Action are not significant:

1. The proposed action will not significantly affect public health or safety (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(3)).
2. The proposed action will not significantly impact natural resources and unique geographical characteristics such as historic or cultural resources; parks, recreation, and refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; flood plains (EO 11988); national monuments;

migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(3) and 43 CFR 46.215(b)).

3. The proposed action will not have possible effects on the human environment that are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(5)).
4. The proposed action will neither establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects nor represent a decision in principle about a future consideration (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(6)).
5. There is no potential for the effects to be considered highly controversial (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(4)).
6. The proposed action will not have significant cumulative impacts (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(7)).
7. The proposed action has no potential to affect historic properties (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(8)).
8. The proposed action will not affect listed or proposed threatened or endangered species (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(9)). Reclamation will follow any recommendations provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for protection of the valley elderberry longhorn beetle prior to and during ground disturbance for the Bulkhead Storage Facility.
9. The proposed action will not violate federal, state, tribal or local law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(10)).
10. The proposed action will not affect any Indian Trust Assets (512 DM 2, Policy Memorandum dated December 15, 1993).
11. Implementing the proposed action will not disproportionately affect minorities or low-income populations and communities (EO 12898).
12. The proposed action will not limit access to, and ceremonial use of, Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (EO 13007 and 512 DM 3).

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS

Reclamation is obligated to ensure fulfillment of any environmental commitments prescribed to mitigate or eliminate impacts resulting from implementation of the proposed action. Conservation Measures and construction procedures described in Chapter 2 of the attached EA will be followed, and Reclamation will monitor construction and post-construction activities to ensure avoidance or minimization of effects to the environment in accordance with all required permits.